

News Release

Faculty Tenure Announcement from the U of M Crookston; Several New Faculty Welcomed to Campus

By Itolfe on Wednesday, September 7, 2011

The University of Minnesota, Crookston Senior Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs Thomas Baldwin has announced that the University of Minnesota Board of Regents has approved the following U of M, Crookston faculty members for tenure.



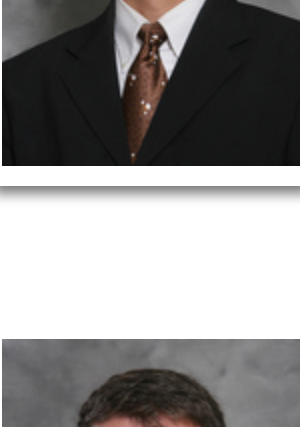
Kevin Thompson, Ph.D., at left, who teaches in the Liberal Arts and Education Department and Jingpeng Tang, Ph.D. , at right, who teaches in the Math, Science and Technology Department were each promoted from assistant professor to associate professor with tenure effective August 15, 2011.



Several new faculty members have been hired in the Business Department and the Math, Science, and Technology Department on the Crookston campus. New faculty members include:



Baizhou Chen, C.P.A., at left, has been hired as an instructor of accounting in the Business Department. A 2003 graduate of the University of Minnesota, Crookston, he holds an M.B.A. from St. John's University in Queens, New York. Since 2006 he has worked in Assurance and Advisory Business Services for Ernst & Young, LLP, in New York City. He is a licensed certified public accountant registered in the state of New York.



Courtney Bergman, M.B.A., at right below, has been hired as a lecturer in the Business Department to teach marketing and management. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of North Dakota and her master's degree from the University of Mary, both degrees are in business administration. She most recently worked as director of marketing for Douglas Place, Inc., in East Grand Forks, Minn., where she was responsible for all marketing activities for the company.



Martin Breaker, J.D., at left, has been hired as a teaching specialist in the Business Department. He holds a juris doctorate from the University of North Dakota's Law School as well as a master of strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College and an MBA from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University. In addition to teaching experience at Bemidji State University and Vermillion Community College in Ely, Minn., he has been the owner and CEO of a successful all-year resort in northeastern Minnesota, as well as an active duty member holding the rank of colonel in the U.S Army Reserve with service in Iraq and with commendations including the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star.

Lacole Hook, Ph.D. (ABD), at right, has been hired as an instructor in the area of sport and recreation management for the Business Department. She is completing a doctorate in sport management from the University of Kansas and holds an M.S.E. in sports management from Southern Illinois University and an M.B.A. from MidAmerica Nazarene University, where she completed her undergraduate work. She has served as a graduate teaching assistant in the Department of Health, Sport, and Exercise Science and the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas, since 2007.



Kun Tian, Ph.D., at left, holds a doctorate in computer science from the Eric Johnson School of Engineering at the University of Texas at Dallas, where he has served as a graduate teaching assistant for software engineering and programming courses since 2006. He will be teaching in the Math, Science, and Technology Department.

Today the University of Minnesota, Crookston delivers 29 bachelor's degree programs, 18 minors, and more than 40 concentrations, including 10 online degrees, in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of about 1,450 undergraduates from more than 25 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit www.uncrookston.edu.

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